

Via: \_\_\_\_\_  
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA ROUTE)

DISPATCH NO. EOGA-15060

**SECRET**

Security Classification

TO : Chief, EE  
Attention: ☒  
FROM : Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

DATE: 6 MAY 1953

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Administrative

SPECIFIC— ☒ Zsolt Aradi

1. I submit herewith Zsolt Aradi's application for employment. He is returning to the United States in June. After he arrives there his first problem will be to complete his arrangements to obtain citizenship. If we are at all interested in him, someone should go to bat to get this done.

2. A copy of the letter Zsolt wrote to me 22 April 1953 in submitting his paper is attached. Here are a few bits of interpretation:

a. The RFE job is new to me. Personally, I don't think much of it since Zsolt has already had as much work in the overt propaganda field as he needs. If we are going to use him we will have to train him to work in support of covert propaganda or intelligence.

b. His reference to his operations with Elsen, Muench, etc., has to do with his work with Charles Thayer. While Thayer was Consul in Munich Aradi acted as a field contact man and developed a system of semi-covert informants. With the exception of Muench, his Church and lay contacts are among the liberal Catholic group in Germany. Zsolt feels with some justification that an alliance with these people would benefit United States policy very much. Apparently Thayer backed him up and agreed with him.

c. The reference to my marvelous solution has to do with the suggestion I made that he represent an American foundation, such as Foreign Affairs, interested in the political, sociological, economic, and religious affairs of Germany and Central Europe. I think Zsolt is well equipped for such a position, as a result of his State Department experience and his large number of contacts here in Germany. He could quite logically solicit articles from representative Germans for publication in the United States and he could do a little writing himself. In such a position he would have access to a great many useful and interesting people in this area.

3. Please decide at once whether or not you are interested in Aradi. I do not think we can afford to string him along just at this time. I realize that security clearances will hold you up to some degree, but since he can be of best use to us under cover I assume that the security hazard involved in employing him would not be great.

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Security Classification

FORM NO. 51-28A  
MAR. 1949

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
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SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 2826  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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h. One last word. Zsolt will be terribly offended if anyone refers to him as an agent. Please employ euphemisms.

5 May 1953

Attachments:

Copy ltr 22 Apr 53

3 PHS's

1 PHS-Attachment 1

Distribution:

3 - EE

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Attachment 1 - EGQA 5-30

April 22, 1953

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Herewith I submit my application. The reason for my delay is that I had to get from New York some data, and that I had to run alone my office for three weeks without any moment off.

I still think that for an intermediary and temporary solution, it wouldn't be bad if I could join Radio Free Europe. I think that I could do something in bringing together the different National Desks, and at the same time RFE could be very helpful in solving my citizenship case, which is the easiest in the world. If anybody would care for it, it could be settled within six weeks. The Department of State is not equipped for such operations and let people do themselves these personal problems, thus getting the citizenship could take months.

I had several talks with friends of mine at RFE, and it is common feeling that it would do good if there would be a liaison between the National Desks on one side and the American leadership on the other side. The Americans at RFE, understandably, do not want to influence anybody to get closer to each other. This could be done by someone who comes from that area. I have a whole program how to do it, i.e., exchanging not only opinions, but actually getting people to each other's desks who speak the language of the others, to make more purposeful social gatherings and to let start a preliminary small discussion about the future of the Danubian countries, etc. In the meantime I could report to the leadership on the constant trend and help to get such people who are completely unbiased as far as future solutions concern. I could do this by asking for a year unpaid leave from the Department, and in the meantime, besides settling the citizenship case, I could really do something in the Danubian field. Your other and marvelous solution (Foreign Affairs) could be prepared meanwhile.

Just for your information, the following "Operations" are pending here, after the resignation of Charlie Thayer:

Elsen, Franz Michael, Landtagsabgeordneter, Direktor der Bayrischer Staatsbank. Through him: Landtag, Munich Cardinal, P. Leiber in Rome, Raab Austrian Chancellor, Fritz Schaeffer, Minister of Finance, etc.

Aloysius Muench, The Nuncio:

Romano Guardini, whom Charlie Thayer and myself just made to a friend of the U.S., and he is shocked about what happened. Guardini's influence is considerable on the German youth.

Zorn, Rudolf, Director of the Board of the Bavarian Savings Banks Associations, which controls 10% of Bavaria's capital. A nominal Socialist.

COPY

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former Minister of Finances in Bavaria, one of the leaders of the anti-Ollenhauer (formerly anti-Schuhmacher) group within the Party. An avowed non-Marxian. These are the main pillars through them we started to operate, not speaking about the minors, as Schoeningh, publisher of the Sueddeutsche Zeitung, and editor of "Hochland", Kogon of the Frankfurter Hefte, Hundhammer from the right wing and through him many other people in Bonn. It would be too long to explain without a regular operational outline, but you understand anyway. Prof. Goergen of Munich, Dr. Speirr of the Sueddeutsche Zeitung are also some of the more important from the minor group. All of these and the rest are again in a certain vacuum, because with Charlie Thayer we had the best people and I don't know whether the new Consul General wants the same set, and whether these people could be approached again, soon after the "Erlebniss" they had.

May I ask you to take in consideration my first suggestion with RFE, which could go without long investigation. This would have the two-fold benefit, that I could do something sensible, and I had the benefit of having a helping hand in the citizenship case.

I expect to go home in June. According to the Central Accounting Office no alien can get such an assignment abroad as I got during the last 9 months. My stay has been extended, after the Voice requested it very strongly, but anyhow I have to go. The Voice had an idea to send me later to Rome as a correspondent for the Munich Radio Center of the Voice. It is very flattering, but I would prefer your assignment.

My citizenship case is easy because in April 13, 1953, the necessary 5 years were up. (Service abroad with the U.S. Government counts.)

May I ask you for a not delayed answer. I apologize for the limping typewriter. Space between the lines is not as exact as it should be.

As ever,

/s/ Zsolt

P.S. Now I am 9 years in U.S. Govt. service. I immigrated spiritually long before I got physically to the States. At this moment I definitely need a helping hand to become an American. Thanks.

Remarks (cont'd.):

SIGNED AT

*U.S. Consulate General  
Munich, Germany*  
(City and State)

DATE *April 21, 1953*

*Walter H. Haden*  
(Witness)

*Goed Aml*  
(Signature)

*D.A.R.U. APD 407*  
(Address)  
*U.S. Army*